



Kentucky Department of Education

June 2014 Volume 1 Issue 6

District 180 News



District 180-Related Information

Ten high schools in Lawrence, Johnson, Lee, Garrard, Casey, Middlesboro Independent, Pulaski (two schools), and Knox (two schools) districts will benefit from \$5 million grant from the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) with the U.S. Department of Labor - http://www.middlesborodailynews.com/news/local_features-news-news_education/4120556/Middlesboro-Independent-included-in-KEDC-federal-grant

Month-by-month PGES implementation guide goes online - http://www.kentuckyteacher.org/bulletin-board/2014/04/month-by-month-pges-implementation-guide-goes-online/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KentuckyTeacher+%28Kentucky+Teacher%29

Commissioner's Commentary: PGES, focus on educator effectiveness over evaluation, could be historic in terms of school reform in Kentucky. <http://kyedcommissioner.blogspot.com/2014/04/a-systems-approach-to-education-reform.html>

Teacher feedback positive on Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES) - <http://education.ky.gov/comm/news/Documents/R14-046%20HSG.pdf>

Morehead State University to start a residential high school for gifted students - <http://www.kentucky.com/2014/04/10/3189681/morehead-state-to-start-residential.html>

Expanded coal county college scholarship program to include students in more than 30 counties; \$2 million available in each year of biennium - <http://www.ksba.org/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=6YBI032&dasi=3UBI>

Dual Capacity framework is available to assist schools in building parent engagement - http://www.kentuckyteacher.org/bulletin-board/2014/04/resource-available-to-assist-schools-in-building-parent-engagement/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KentuckyTeacher+%28Kentucky+Teacher%29

CIITS a standout tool for Kentucky educators - http://www.kentuckyteacher.org/features/2014/04/ciits-a-standout-tool-for-kentucky-educators/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KentuckyTeacher+%28Kentucky+Teacher%29

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Priority Schools in the News

Academy@Shawnee science teacher Imogen Herrick wins ExCel (Excellence in Classroom & Educational Leadership) Award

Our Shawnee, a collection of essays about the lives of eight students at **Academy @ Shawnee**, was published on May 21

8 **Academy @ Shawnee** seniors and Our Shawnee authors who turned doubters into believers



Student authors write inscriptions after seeing the book for first time

Bryan Station High School part of pilot college and career program that shows teachers and academic coaches how to better help students identify future

Cecilia Omdal, School Administration Manager at Academy @ Shawnee, wins Golden Oar Award -



Cecilia Omdal

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Criteria for Early Graduation from High School

Starting in the 2014-15 school year, certain students may opt for early graduation from high school. It provides students the opportunity to “move on when ready” after meeting both rigorous academic benchmarks and the definition of being college-ready. An early graduation candidate is a student who intends to meet all regulatory benchmarks on an accelerated pathway before the end of their third full year of enrollment. The criteria for early graduation requires a student to declare his/her intention to graduate early, complete an intent form, meet ACT college readiness benchmarks as determined by the Kentucky Council on Postsec-

ondary Education, and meet minimum benchmarks on the four state required end-of-course exams.

Early graduation is a deliberate pathway for students to receive a diploma from the district and be eligible for acceptance into a SACS-accredited Kentucky public or non-profit, two- or four-year college. 704 [KAR 3:305](#) provides a financial incentive, known as the Early Graduation Certificate, for the student to support this action.

For more information please visit <http://education.ky.gov/educational/AL/Pages/Early-Graduation.aspx> or contact Kelly Clark at kelly.clark@education.ky.gov

Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES) featured on KET

Education Matters, hosted by Bill Goodman, explored how the new statewide Professional Growth and Effectiveness System helps Kentucky teachers improve their professional practice.

The program included visits to Marshall and Boone counties to see how schools are implementing the new system, which is currently in its pilot year.

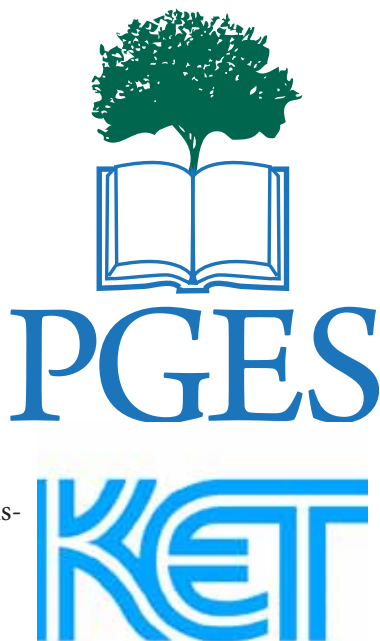
Also on the program, Goodman led a panel discussion with guests:

- Brad Clark, 4th-5th grade social studies teacher, Woodford County, and trainer for Hope Street Group and AdvanceKentucky

- Brad Darnell, middle school mathematics teacher, Marshall County

- Dr. Amanda Ellis, director, Next-Generation Professionals, Kentucky Department of Education

- Stephanie Winkler, president, Kentucky Education Association and science teacher, Mayfield Elementary School, Madison County



You can watch the show here:

http://www.ket.org/cgi-bin/cheetah/watch_video.pl?nola=KEDMA_000504&altid=&template=

Priority Schools in the News

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Corey Keith, Education Recovery Leader at **Bryan Station High School**, hired as new assistant superintendent/chief academic officer in Garrard County



Corey Keith

Kentucky Department of Education awards \$23K grant to **Caverna Independent High School**; school hopes to use money to expand dual credit offerings through postsecondary, technical school partnerships

Christian County High School uses mock interviews to boost students who are short on meeting college or career readiness benchmarks

Competition helps drive nearly 100 percent college acceptance rate for **Dayton Independent High School**, class of 2014; “College Signing Day” celebrates academics

Fairdale High School senior Willie Burton is a member of the National Guard All-Resilient team.



Willie Burton

Fern Creek High School puts students on the air with 24-hour radio station

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ACT EXPLORE and ACT PLAN in Kentucky

ACT, Inc. planned to discontinue production of both ACT EXPLORE and ACT PLAN after the 2014-15 school year. However, they offered both assessments to a limited number of states, including Kentucky, for one additional school year, 2015-16. The current plan is for students across Kentucky to take the ACT Explore and ACT Plan in September 2014 and September 2015.

Recently, Cambridge Educational Services sent an e-mail notification that “effective June 2014, it (ACT) will no longer offer its PLAN and EXPLORE tests.” This does NOT apply to Kentucky. Any resale of test documents Cambridge purchased from ACT is a legal debate between those two entities. It does not affect the contract KDE has with ACT to provide these tests in September 2014 and 2015.

Please contact the Office of Assessment and Accountability at (502) 564-4394 or dacinfo@education.ky.gov with questions related to Kentucky state testing.

Kentucky highlighted in national report on school accountability

A new [report](#) issued from the [Education Commission of the States \(ECS\)](#) shows Kentucky as one of 10 states measuring and reporting the five essential indicators of a meaningful accountability system. These five indicators are: student achievement, student academic growth, achievement gap closure, graduation rates and post-secondary and career readiness. The other states are California, Colorado, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Utah and Wisconsin.

Also, Kentucky and Ohio were the

only states with report cards deemed easy to find while also meeting and reporting all five essential indicators.

“Kentucky has proven their dedication to creating a high-quality accountability system, and to effectively communicating the results of such a system to the public,” said ECS President Jeremy Anderson. “Transparency of accountability systems is essential for parents, educators and policymakers to make informed decisions about their students and schools.”

See how Kentucky compares to other states in the full report [here](#).

Priority Schools in the News

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Fern Creek High School

JROTC excels at national level

Franklin-Simpson High School

Principal Tim Schlosser and the Franklin-Simpson Student Support Team presented with the Dr. Johnnie Grissom Award by the Kentucky Board of Education

Greenup County High School

physics class shows that “it really is rocket science;” student rockets teach all sorts of science lessons for real world use

Some Hopkins County Central High School students

traded the beach for firefighting training during their Spring Break

John Bates, plant operator at [Knight Middle School](#), wins Golden Oar Award

Lawrence County High School

students participate in engineering ship building exercise, a year-end tradition at the school

Lee County High School

partners with Microsoft to teach computer science skills to students

Lincoln County High School

likely to leave “persistently low-achieving” status next year if progress continues; principal lauds state group as “big support” in turnaround

Have you registered yet for #PGES4Me?

The official launch of the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System will take place July 21 at Southland Christian Church on Richmond Road in Lexington. Come join us to receive the benefits of in-person training, small group sessions, networking opportunities, live facilitators, and the opportunity to earn PD and EILA credit. #PGES4Me is open to all Kentucky educators and education stakeholders.

Click [here](#) for registration instructions.

A webcast will be available for viewing from any location. The URL for viewing the simulcast will be sent out in advance. In addition, a backchannel, an online question and answer platform, will be open during the simulcast to take questions from those watching remotely. The simulcast will be archived and available for school and district use starting July 22.

Please contact Kevin Stull at kevin.stull@education.ky.gov with questions.

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Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES) Calibration and Teachescape

For the 2014-15 school year, certification/calibration recommendations are as follows:

1) If a district is using PGES for personnel decisions in 2014-15, we strongly recommend calibration to ensure accuracy and reliability. This could also minimize the possibility that it could be used as a reason for an appeal of an employment decision.

2) If the district is not using PGES for personnel decisions in 2014-15, but observers have been certified in the last 15 months, the observers are not required to calibrate for 2014-15 but may choose to do so for ongoing accuracy.

3) Any staff member who has not yet become certified and will be evaluating/observing teachers must have initial certification through the proficiency assessment.

*In collaboration with KDE, Teachescape is offering the following options for Kentucky calibration for individual licenses purchased at the district level:

1. \$99 per year for each observer:
 - 6 calibration windows to check scoring accuracy throughout the year
2. \$149 per year for each observer:
 - 8 scoring practice videos that provide instant feedback
 - 6 calibration windows to check scoring accuracy throughout the year
3. \$199 per year for each observer:
 - Observer training which includes master-scored videos of classroom teaching at all performance levels
 - 8 scoring practice videos that provide instant feedback
 - 6 calibration windows to check scoring accuracy throughout the year

The PGES contact at the district level will be responsible for the collaboration with Teachescape to set up the calibration windows for your district.

KDE will be gathering information and working with Teachescape on the calibration process throughout the 2014-15 school year to determine the best way for calibration to continue in a cost-efficient manner. The PGES steering committees will make recommendations about this matter moving forward.

Please look for the next communication about an informational webinar co-hosted by KDE and Teachescape on calibration along with links to pre-recorded webinars, an observer calibration white paper, and other valuable information about ongoing observer proficiency.

**To qualify for this special pricing, each observer in the district will purchase an individual license. Because calibration is an individual exercise, Teachescape and its partners cannot approve the use of an individual license for group practice.*



Kentucky Department of Education

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Priority Schools in the News

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Principal calls U.S. News & World Report bronze award, national ranking for [Lincoln County High School](#) payoff for three years of hard work by teachers, staff, and students

Kentucky Teacher guest column about the National Board certification process by Joanna Howerton Stevens, math teacher at [Lincoln County High School](#) and 2014 KY High School Teacher of the Year

[Metcalf County High School](#) is the recipient of a \$100,000 National Breakthrough School planning grant that will focus on personalized learning

[Metcalf County High School](#) and [Pulaski County High School](#) awarded silver medals; [Christian County High School](#), [Franklin-Simpson High School](#), [Lee County High School](#), and [Lincoln County High School](#) awarded bronze medals in 2014 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools rankings

[Knox Central High School](#) students will be able to earn college credits next year through partnership between Knox County Board of Education and Eastern Kentucky University -

[Pulaski County High School](#) earns silver medal in 2014 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools rankings; serves as HUB School

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Save the Date – KY Continuous Improvement Summit Sept. 22-23



Kentucky Continuous Improvement Summit

Keynote Speaker: Principal Kafele

An internationally-renowned education speaker and consultant, Principal Kafele is one of the most sought-after speakers for transforming the attitudes of at-risk student populations in America. A best-selling author, Principal Kafele is a leading authority on professional development strategies for creating a positive school climate and culture, transforming the attitudes of at-risk student populations, and school leadership development.

September 22-23, 2014

Lexington Convention Center
Lexington, KY

Follow the conversation by using **#KYCIS2014**
for updates and announcements!

[**Register Now**](#)

Sponsored by



Priority Schools in the News

Continued from Page 4

Pulaski County High School teacher attends Space Camp, hopes to inspire students to set high goals

Seneca High School recognized for having stellar PLC

Popular assistant principal at **Seneca High School** named new principal; was part of an administrative team that helped lead a turnaround effort at the school

Southern High School student earns first place award at national FEA conference

Dr. Kimberly Johnson of **Waggener High School** named to the 2014 LearnZillion 2014 Dream Team; part of a group of 200 talented math and English/language arts teachers selected from an international pool of 4,000 applicants



Kentucky Department of Education

SAVE THE DATE!

ER Institute

July 14-15, Galt House in Louisville

This event is designed to impact the professional practice of Education Recovery staff in order to further support Priority Schools in Kentucky. The institute will provide time for collaboration, connections, and updates that will lead to continuous improvement for students.

CIITS News You Can Use

The 2013 Advanced Placement (AP) assessment data is now available in CIITS. To view the assessment results, go to School & District Data > Pre-Formatted Reports > Standardized Assessment Performance, or click on the Standardized Assessment tab on the Student Profile.

The device manager software used for clickers must be downloaded via the links provided in the CIITS Technical Guide in order for the clickers to work correctly with CIITS. The links to download this software have also been added on the right side of the CIITS Support Materials page on the KDE website.

All individuals who have a district employment assignment and a valid kyschools.us email address entered in

Infinite Campus automatically receive a CIITS user account. Upon an employee's separation from the district, districts should end date all of the employee's district employment record(s) and district assignment record(s) in Infinite Campus. Click path: Census > People > District Employment; Census > People > District Assignments. Failure to end date all of the employee's district assignments will result in the individual's CIITS account remaining active. Districts may use the "CIITS Roles" report in Infinite Campus to see custom CIITS roles assignments for their district and school staff, the institution in which the permissions are assigned, and the assignment start date. The path to run the report is KY State Reporting > KDE Reports >

CIITS Roles.

The rollover from the current 2013-14 school year to the upcoming 2014-15 school year in CIITS is scheduled to take place June 23-27. Once that is complete, all data from the 2013-14 school year can be accessed, but as read only and it cannot be edited. In addition, CIITS version 16.0 will be released during this time with updated features.

Therefore, it is recommended that educators wait to begin adding information for the 2014-15 school year until after July 7 when the CIITS rollover to the next school year will be complete.

If you have any questions, please contact CIITS service manager Maritta Horne at maritta.horne@education.

Highlights from Priority School websites and newsletters Eastern Priority Schools



Dr. Lewis Willian and Dr. Lisa Carroll

Lisa Carroll, Educational Recovery Specialist at Hopkins County Central High School, and Lewis Willian, Educational Recovery Leader at Lee County High School, completed their doctoral program in Educational Leadership from Morehead State University this spring. Dr. Carroll's dissertation evaluated Kentucky superintendent salary and compensation packages and compared them by gender. Dr. Willian's capstone project studied the implementation of a student-centered approach and its impact on culture and college and career readiness within a school. Graduation was held at Morehead State University on May 10, 2014.

East Carter County High School

The East Carter County High School FBLA chapter competed at the FBLA State Conference and had two students advance to the FBLA National Conference. The team competed in various events including Public Speaking II (1st place), Spreadsheet Applications (2nd place), and Word Processing (3rd place). The East Carter chapter also won the Unite to Read Award, Gold Seal Chapter Award, and State Project and Goals.



Fleming County High School

Congrats to FCHS Art Students for their performance at the Mt. Sterling Art Show & Competition! Shirlan Terrill won first place in Abstract and second place in Still Life. Morgan Jent won first place in Landscape, David Wagoner won second place in Cartoon, Bethany DeAtley won second place in Digital, and Carissa Kinney won second place in Photography.



Thank you to the FCHS Senior Beta Club for these wonderful shirts that were given to teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week. They are awesome!



Mrs. Fritz's Culinary Class celebrating Derby Week





Congratulations to Jessica Conn for placing first in her Senior Interview! She will be headed to the state 4-H Communications event in July!

Greenup County High School

FFA students win multiple awards and advance to the State FFA Competition in June

Multiple members of Future Farmers of America (FFA) recently competed at the Big Sandy Regional Contests. Students had to compete in various areas, and many were required to give speeches. Overall, members of the organization competed well and represented Greenup County High School in a positive manner. Advisor Carrie Davis is extremely proud of the excellent accomplishments of each of these students.

- Miranda Robinson First Place (Prepared Public Speaking)
- Caleb Adkins First Place (Beef Impromptu)
- Katlin Moore First Place (Floral Design Impromptu)
- Anna McCleese First Place (Nursery and Landscape Impromptu)
- Jordan Madden Second Place (Turf and Lawn Care Impromptu)

During Kentucky Literacy Week, Librarian Susan Norris held a Read-In. Faculty members performed a Mystery Dinner Theatre while students participated in a variety of games. It was a great evening!



Knox Central High School

Skills USA Kentucky is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry representatives working together to ensure Kentucky has a skilled workforce. Skills USA programs include local, regional, state and national competitions in which students demonstrate occupational and leadership skills.

Knox Central students Pascal Crawford, Jacob C. Mills, Cody Pride, Bradley Abner, and Leslie C. Smith participated in various events. Pascal Crawford won second place and Jacob C. Mills placed third in Electrical Construction. Cody Price placed second in Auto Service 1. Bradley Abner placed second in Welding Technology 2. Leslie C. Smith placed first in welding sculpture. All of these young men performed at high levels.

Knox Central's Keith Broughton was recognized by the Knox County Board of Education for his Excellence in Education at the March board meeting. The Excellence in Education award is given by Campbellsville College to teachers who have demonstrated a strong commitment to education. Broughton teaches math at Knox Central.



Keith Broughton accepts his Excellence in Education Award

Science Olympiad Team fares well at competition

Knox Central High School Team A won first place out of 14 teams, beating out Dunbar H.S. and Central Hardin H.S.

This is the second consecutive year they have won the regional tournament held at Somerset Community College. Team B qualified for the state but did not place in the top 3.

The teams will compete in the state tournament at WKU on April 12th. Team A is comprised of the following students:

Anatomy - Logan Disney & Laura Jackson (3rd place)
 Astronomy - Logan Disney & Laura Jackson (1st place)
 Bungee Drop - Jacob Bargo & Briana Mollett (3rd place)
 Circuit Lab - Lee Frazier & Niven Achenjang (2nd place)
 Genetics - Logan Disney & Laura Jackson (1st place)
 Disease Detective - Devon Hurley & Rachael Hudson (3rd place)
 Dynamic Planet - T.J. Melton & Mollie Pope (2nd place)
 Elastic Glider - Jacob Bargo & Briana Mollett (1st place)
 Experimental Design - Sarah Miles, Devon Hurley, & Jaykob Hubbard

(2nd place)

Geologic Mapping - Mollie Pope & Chris Gibson (4th place)

Maglev - Chase Hubbard & Lee Frazier (1st place)

Mission Possible - Chase Hubbard & T.J. Melton (1st place)

Rocks & Minerals - Mollie Poe & Chris Gibson (3rd place)

Technical Problem Solving - Laura Jackson & Jaykob Hubbard (2nd place)

Write to Do It - Jacob Bargo & Rachael Hudson

Team B includes:

Bungee Drop - Nick Gibson & Leslie Smith (1st place)

Elastic Glider - Nick Gibson & Leslie Smith (3rd place)

Experimental Design - Carrie Bargo, Addison Osborne, & Markelle Smith

Mission Possible - Leslie Smith & Nick Gibson



Knox Central Science Olympiad Team

Chamber Choir scores Distinguished at KMEA



Knox Central Chamber Choir

The Knox Central Chamber Choir competed in the KMEA Choral Adjudication Festival and scored a Distinguished rating. This rating qualified the choir for the state KMEA Festival, which will be held on May 7th at the University of Louisville. Isaac Brooks received a Distinguished rating in Solo and Ensemble. The Chamber Choir is under the direction of Eddie Campbell.

Union College future attendees

Knox Central students were recognized by the Knox County Board of Education for their commitment to the UCI (Union Collegiate Institute) Early Start Program. Students meet every Tuesday as a group. Union College representative Mona Powell is their advisor and instructor. Powell teaches the group college skills and assists them in preparing for life at college. Students in the UCI Early Start Program include Addison Osborne, Amber Leddington, Kaitlyn Jones, Sydni Hammontree, Laura Everly, and Hallea Barnhill.



Members of the UCI Early Start Program from Knox Central

Berea Leadership Summit

Berea College offered a leadership summit for 9th grade students at Knox Central and Lynn Camp High School. Eighteen freshmen seminar students attended the leadership summit on April 12 at Berea College. Students worked on developing leadership skills and discussed their goals and aspirations for the future. At the end of the day, students had the privilege of meeting and greeting Muse Watson, who has starred several well-known movies as well as in TV shows such as "NCIS" and "Justified." Mr. Watson is a Berea College alumnus. "It was a day well spent for Knox County students," said Khristian Abner, trip chaperone.

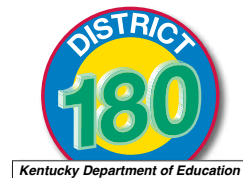


WYMT TV University of Pikeville Student Achiever

Lee Frazier, a senior at Knox Central, was chosen as the WYMT TV UPike student achiever. Lee was nominated by for his academic success, ACT score, and extracurricular activities. His future plans include attending the University of Kentucky and pursuing a degree in Computer Engineering. Lee is a member of the FBLA, Science Olympiad, and Academic Team at Knox Central. He is the son of Bill and Brenda Frazier.



Lee Frazier



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Redbud Art Contest Winners

Knox Central was well represented in the Redbud Appalachian Art contest at Union College.

Students entered their best pieces in a variety of categories from photography to painting. The winners in each category are listed below:

High School Best of Show - Rachael Hudson

High School: Drawing

1st place - Cheyenne Kennedy

2nd place - Layla Rain Burnett

3rd place - Tara Newsome

Honorable Mention - Dallas Yeager

High School: Painting

1st place - Rachael Hudson

2nd place - Layla Rain Burnett

3rd place - Ricki Griffith

Honorable Mention - Devon Hurley

High School: Photography

1st place - Samara Callihan

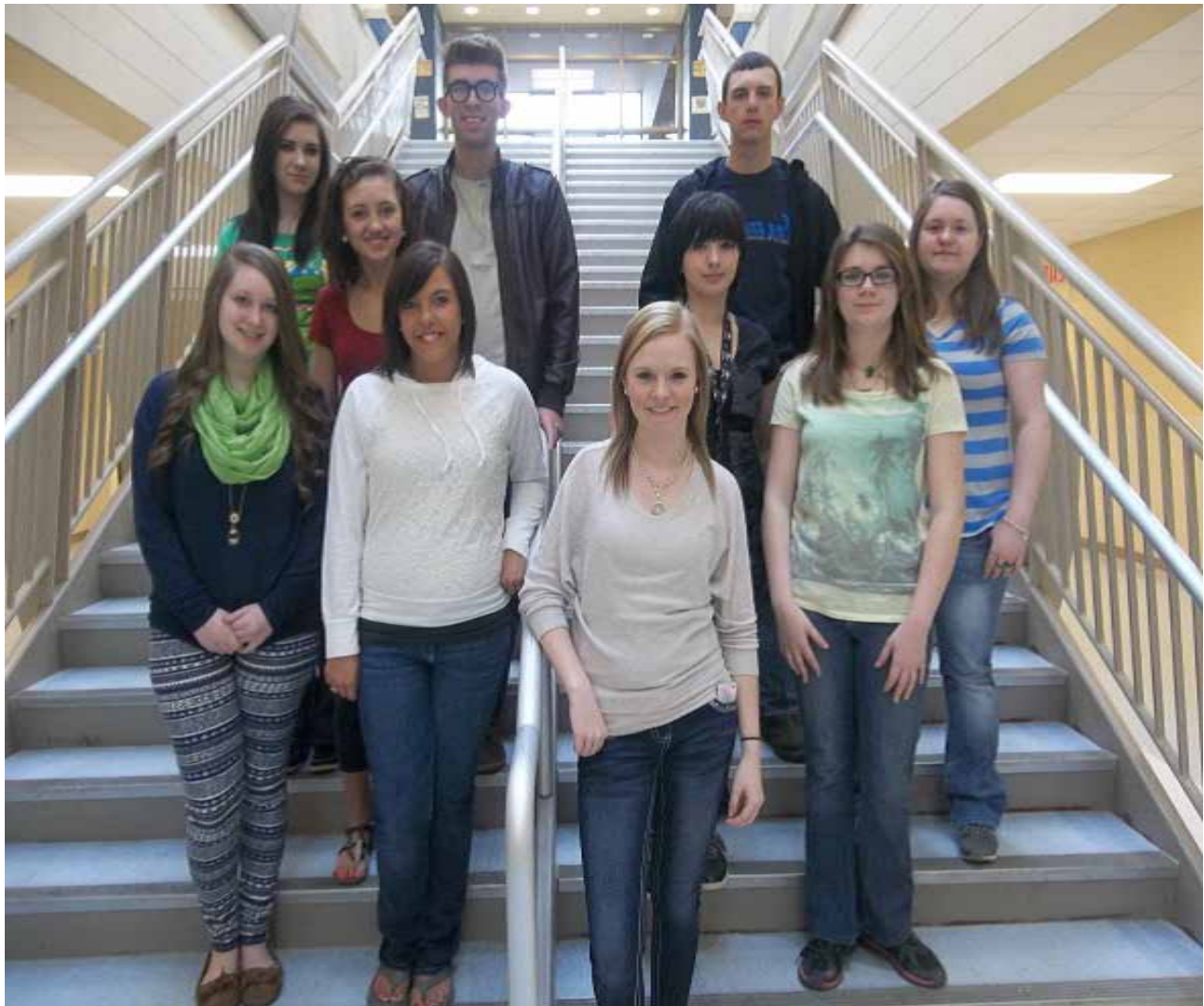
High School: Mixed Media

1st place - Samara Callihan

2nd place - Faith Slusher

3rd place - Briana Mollett

An awards ceremony and reception was held at Union College for the winners in each category.



Redbud Appalachian Art contest winners

FBLA win at state, advance to nationals

Three Knox Central Business students advanced to national competition after winning awards at the FBLA state conference in Louisville. Kelsey Engle, Brandi Mills, and Chris Gibson will compete in the National Leadership Conference in Nashville this summer. Kelsey, a junior, placed fourth in word processing. Chris, a junior, placed third in computer applications. Brandi, a freshman, placed second in desktop publishing.



Perry County Central County High School



Mahala Walker

Mahala Walker has been selected to represent Perry County as the 2014 Rogers Scholar. Rogers Scholar is the Center for Rural Development's flagship youth program, which provides leadership and college scholarship opportunities to help rising high school juniors develop the skills they need to seize their potential as the region's next generation of business and entrepreneurial leaders.

Congratulations to FFA Record Keeping Team

The PCC FFA Record Keeping Team came in second place in the Kentucky River Region. The team consisted of Katlynn Campbell, Kaytlin Wooten, Kalib Jones, and Robert Caswell.

The competition deals with students keeping tax information records for agriculture purposes. These

students work very hard all year in numerous competitions and activities. These classes really help to prepare these students for careers.

They take their responsibilities seriously and dedicate much of their own time to be part of this program. Congratulations on a great job.

Perry County Central Commodore Players Drama Company wins awards

The Perry County Central Commodore Players Drama Company traveled to Madison Southern High School in Berea for the 6th Annual Eastern Kentucky Dramatic Arts Society (EKDAS) High School Drama Festival, where they presented their play, "Epic Fail." The Commodore Players won the following awards at the festival:

3rd Place

School Spirit Award
Best Opening scene
Best Stand Alone scene for "The Driving Lesson"

Perry Central Students on "The All Mountain Cast" are Ramsey Hall, Hannah Melton, Austin Campbell and Kris Bush.

Congratulations to the Commodore Players and Mr. Neace!

Pulaski County High School

FBLA Excels at State Conference

The Pulaski County FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) recently competed at the state FBLA conference in Louisville, KY, in April and amassed nine awards. Six of the nine awards were first place finishes, which led the state. Overall, nine students qualified for the national competition this summer in Nashville, Tenn.

- 1st Place - Holly Estes (Accounting II)
- 1st Place - Seth Barron (Spreadsheet Applications)
- 1st Place - Steven Popick (Introduction to Information Technology)
- 1st Place - Lane Wilson and Kaylee Wilson (Community Service Project)
- 1st Place - Mason Stevens and Morgan Stevens (Talent Show - Most Entertaining)
- 1st Place - Kyra LaRue, Taylor Cooper, Katie Loveless (Management Information Systems)



Pulaski County High School FBLA Chapter

Biomedical Sciences receives national certification

On April 22, PCHS received national certification for its Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Biomedical Sciences Program.

As part of the recognition process, a PLTW trained team containing the UK PLTW director, the Biomedical Science State Leader from KDE, a career and technical education specialist, and a medical professional from the Kentucky Cancer Program spent the day at PCHS evaluating the implementation of the program.

The certification team examined the

facilities and program equipment, and met with teachers, school administrators, counselors, students, and members of the school's Partnership Team.

As a PLTW certified program, Biomedical students now have the opportunity to apply for college credit or receive college-level recognition at PLTW affiliate universities

when they successfully complete select PLTW courses in high school. PLTW has more than 40 affiliate college and university partners, including the University of Kentucky.



JROTC Drill Team competes at nationals

The Pulaski County High School JROTC Drill Team traveled to Louisville on March 31 to compete in the United States Army Cadet Command Nationals. The event, which was hosted by USACC at Ft. Knox, was the first ever all Army Drill Competition. The best 55 high school Military Drill Teams in the Army were invited to compete in four categories of military drill - Inspection, Color Guard, Regulation Drill (Platoon), and Unit Exhibition Drill.

Pulaski County JROTC entered the event as the #1 color guard in

the 7th Brigade, which includes Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan. Teams from across America assembled in Louisville to compete for the title of Best Drill Team. Pulaski County JROTC earned a very respectable 34th place overall.

PCHS Team Members were: Drill team Commander Dexter Melton, Battalion Commander Tyler Abney, C/CSM Chestin Watson, Cadets Colin Hau-Blair, Katie Keller, Tabatha Keller, Crystal White, McKenzie Vaught, Tiffany Spangler, Caleb Lopez, Dillon Duncan, Ryan Brown, De-

ris Whitaker, Austin Jones, Justin Black, Max Tong, Miguel Roque, and Nicholas Woodard.

SFC Stanley Andrews, Drill Instructor for Pulaski County High School, stated that during his 23 years of JROTC this was by far the most talented group of Drill Cadets ever assembled by USACC.

For our team and school to be represented among this group of Drill cadets shows the dedication and teamwork necessary to place Pulaski County High School among the BEST Drill programs in Cadet Command.

Central/JCPS Priority Schools

The **2014 Hilliard Lyons Excellence Award Ceremony** recognized JCPS staff for their outstanding teaching performance. Watch the awards ceremony here - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=re0a_rOG7Jw

Staff at Priority Schools received the following awards:

PLA Award – Katy Zeitz, Principal of Waggener High School

Middle School PLC Award – Westport Middle School

High School PLC Award – Seneca High School

Middle School Teacher Award – Paige Houston, Westport Middle School

High School Teacher Award – Scott Beldon, Doss High School

Middle School Principal Award – Bill Perkins, Olmsted Academy North

High School Principal Award – Bryce Hibbard, Southern High School

Audwin and Rae Helton Award – Adrian Lane, teacher at Seneca High School

Bellarmino University Teacher Award – Bryan O'Neill, Waggener High School

Jefferson Community Technical College Teacher Award – Stewart Hudson, Doss High School

Carbide Darleen Horton High School Teacher Award – Vicky Cummings

Living the Legacy of Zambia Nkrumah Middle School Teacher of the Year – Ben Easley, Western Middle School

Unsung Hero Awards

Seniors from each Jefferson County priority high school received Unsung Hero awards in April through the Louisville Rotary Club. Each year, one senior from each public, private, and Catholic high school in Jefferson County is honored for their school and community volunteer work. Students are recommended by their school counselor and receive a \$500 savings bond. Watch the story here: <http://www.wdrb.com/story/17169048/rotary-club-honors-young-unsung-heroes>

Sponsored by Buechel/Fern Creek Rotary

Fern Creek High School - James A. Mackey

Seneca High School - Hannah Layne Wheeler



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Sponsored by Rotary Club of Louisville
 Doss High School - Alexis A. Livingston
 Iroquois High School - Mackenzie R. Simpson
 Academy @ Shawnee - DeShaun Michael Wood
 Valley High School - Megan Nicole Elsler
 Western High School - Michael Rudiman GeMtumba

Sponsored by St. Matthews Rotary Club
 Waggener High School - Brian Tsavolakis

Sponsored by South Louisville/Okolona Rotary Club
 Fairdale High School - Erie Nicole "Nikki" Williams
 Southern High School - Kasey Lynn Manning

Give a Day Projects

Nearly 60,000 Jefferson County Public School (JCPS) District students and staff members gave the equivalent of 656 days of community service during Louisville Mayor

Greg Fischer's Give A Day week (April 12-20). Every school and JCPS office participated.

<http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Projects/DayOfService/GiveADay2014.pdf>

Give A Day projects at Jefferson County Priority Schools included:

Academy @ Shawnee - plant trees, beautification; 50 participants

Doss HS - campus cleanup and final stages of the outdoor classroom; 190 participants

Fairdale HS - plant saplings, clean up campus, and Fairdale Brightside project; 525 participants

Fern Creek HS - worked with Brightside and Build a Bed, volunteered at Fern Creek Highview United Ministries; 35 participants

Frost MS - Operation Gratitude (write letters to Fort Knox deployed & wounded soldiers); 453 participants

Iroquois HS - community cleanup, clothing drive; 450 participants

Knight MS - Brighten Someone's Day (notes and letters to Kosair and Veteran's Hospital); 418 participants

Myers MS - school grounds cleanup, collection of shoes

to recycle playground, book drive; 845 participants

Olmsted North - fundraiser to benefit Kosair Hospital playroom and performance by music students for patients, PowerPoint presentations created warning younger students about the danger of online predators, compost bins designed/built and cleanup done using the bins; 300 participants

Seneca HS - LEEP scholars prepared a healthy snack at the Neighborhood House Child

Development Center; 10 participants

Southern HS - grounds cleanup, food drive, and reading to elementary students; 150 participants

Thomas Jefferson MS - campus beautification; 337 participants

Valley HS - community cleanup between Bethany Lane and Valley Station Road; 45 participants

Waggener HS - HOSA at mini-marathon, Wayside Mission, WaterStep, campus cleanup; 80 participants

Western HS - packaged meals for families in U.S. and developing countries, collected shoes for WaterStep; 950 participants

Western MS - donate items and make sandwiches for Wayside; 100 participants

Westport MS - collect bedding and personal hygiene products for the Build-A- Bed initiative; 900 participants



Kentucky Department of Education

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Academy at Shawnee

Trees Planted for Give a Day

150 trees were planted at The Academy @ Shawnee on April 12 as part of Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer's third annual Give a Day of Service.



Academy @ Shawnee principal Dr. Houston Barber works with the mayor and other friends to plant trees.

The new website for Academy @ Shawnee's middle school is now up - <http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Schools/Middle/AcademyShawneeMiddle/index.html>



Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer works on planting a tree.

Fairdale High School



Senior trip to Gatlinburg and Dollywood



Lauren Alwes was chosen to receive a Valley Woman's Club Scholarship.

Fairdale Fire Science students attended the FDIC (Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis)



Extinguisher training



Competing in the Firefighter Combat Challenge

Fern Creek High School International Festival

The 2nd Annual Fern Creek International Festival was held on April 11. It was a great celebration of diversity! Congratulations and THANK YOU to Mr. Hanks, Ms. Nieber, and their students for putting together the International Festival. It was a meaningful experience to hear our ESL students' stories, see them perform, and watch all of our kids interact with one another.



Fern Creek Communications Department Achievements

Congratulations to Communications students in SkillsUSA for their performance at the state leadership level. At the State leadership conference, Cody Wilder won 2nd place in Pin Design. Kaylie Connors and Keaton Blair won 1st place in TV/Video Production.

Both categories are extremely competitive events and these students worked very hard for their accomplishments. Congratulations to our Communications students and teachers!

Last week we attended the Mark of Excellence Broadcast Journalism awards at Western Kentucky University, and our students won multiple awards. They are great representatives of our school.

FCTV6 MORNING EDITION won BEST OVERALL NEWSCAST (1st place). This is an incredible honor, and a team effort! Congrats to Kristen Reesor, Marissa Metzger, Christina Caffrey, Jailen Hayden, Aaron Carrington, Sean Melius, James Nichter, Kaylie Connors, Keaton Blari, Molly Grider, and Aaron Campbell.

ANEISSA COULTER won BEST NEWS VIDEOGRAPHY (1st place)

KAYLIE CONNORS won BEST FEATURE STORY (1st place)

KAYLIE CONNORS also won 3rd place in the BEST NEWS STORY category.

These are statewide awards open to ALL schools in Kentucky, so winning 1st place is an impressive accomplishment. Our students continue to win against tough competition from Manual, PRP, Ballard, Trinity, Oldham County, South Oldham, and Bowling Green HS just to name a few. We are so proud of them. Congratulations!

Fern Creek Art Department News

Irvin Shaifa and Sheridan Bishoff's artwork was selected for the 2014 Derby Welcome Cards contest, which is sponsored by Churchill Downs. For the first time in Derby Welcome Card contest history, two Fern Creek students have been honored with the distinction of both first place awards in the High School Division. Way to go Mr. Sturgeon, Ms. Clarkson, Sheridan, and Irvin!



Derby 2014 1st Place Winner created by Fern Creek artist Irvin Shaifa



Derby 2014 1st Place Winner created by Fern Creek Artist Sheridan Bishoff



Fern Creek Senior Sheridan Bishoff at her senior solo show

2014 Fern Creek Art Show at the Fern Creek Community Library



Fern Creek Symphonic Band excels at state festival

A Big Congratulations to our Fern Creek Symphonic Band! The band performed exceptionally well at the State Concert Band Festival and received a Proficient Assessment Rating. Comments such as excellent tonal concept, great intonation, beautiful solo performances, and exciting program are just some of the compliments shared by the three nationally recognized adjudicators. This marks the first time in the history of the KMEA State Concert Band Festival that Fern Creek has qualified to participate.

Iroquois High School

“Trashformation” Art Contest Winners

Visual Art teacher Sarah Balbach and her students won the “Trashformation” Art Contest with their painted fridge. Louisville-area students in grades 9–12 had an opportunity to create and submit art using a recycled refrigerator shell. The contest was sponsored by The Louisville Zoo and Louisville Gas & Electric and Kentucky Utilities. This unique event encouraged students to communicate the importance of recycling and sustainability through art. Using only recycled items, students made an art project that reflected, interpreted, or depicted Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.



Mrs. Garrett's freshman reading class wrote children's books and then shared them with Rutherford Elementary second graders.



International Banquet Day



Senior Breakfast



Mark Jallayu, senior class president, sports the cap and gown he and his classmates will wear for graduation (picture by Toni Konz of the Louisville Courier-Journal, 5/9/14)

Seniors line up for breakfast. Prom is tonight. Time to celebrate everything you've worked so hard to earn!



Olmsted North

Our community helped students set goals for K-PREP testing with student data journals.



We are proud of these young men



2013-14 Students of the Year



2013-14 Student Achievers

Southern High School

Two hundred students and 20 staff members turned out to help with Southern's Give a Day projects.



Raven Jackson, a student at Southern High School, won top honors at the recent Future Educators Association (FEA) National Conference held in April in Minneapolis, Minn. Raven was awarded first place in Lesson and Planning Delivery. Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)'s Office of Career and Technical Education administers the FEA program in the state.

Thomas Jefferson Middle School

Eighth grade student of the year

The Jefferson County Middle School Counselors' Association recognized outstanding 8th grade students from each middle school throughout JCPS. Congratulations to Dezmra Heissler, Thomas Jefferson's 8th grade student of the year! You can watch the Eighth Grade Recognition and Awards ceremony at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcWT_e7dFR0 (Dezmra's award presentation begins at 3:36).



Dezmra Heissler

Festival of Cultures

The sixth annual Festival of Cultures went off without a hitch this year. The Explorers 6th grade ESL team performed 21 different presentations representing cultures from roughly 15 different countries. The kids did an amazing job. The audiences were the biggest they have ever been. There were a few acts that stood out. Jayla Lock danced a line-dance called "Sway" based on Rumba, a Cuban dance. The Quinceanera group (a Latin tradition celebrating a young lady's 15th birthday) was the largest group to ever perform. The Bachata group (a Latin social dance) was made up of students who had never danced, yet they performed very well. The Jordanian food presenter brought

in food from his parents' 4-star restaurant. The food did not last very long. There were so many more groups that did an amazing job, but what was most impressive was how the hard work of these Explorer students brought so many smiles to the faces of our students. There were students in the audience who joined us on stage to dance. We had cheers of "Ese!" coming from the audience during the Chacarerra (Argentine Folk Dance). The Festival of Cultures is a lot of work for teachers and students alike, but the kids learn so much about one another. The planning, writing, research, and performances are amazing ways to bring understanding of culture to our kids and our school.



Waggener High School



Junior Achievement AT&T Aspire Job Mentoring Program

Waggener Art Showcase 2014



Westport Middle School



Our 8th graders took a trip to Washington, D.C.

Western Middle School



Shout out to Ms. Heaton and the Beta Club for helping with the AmeriCorps Build a Bed Project

It is with great honor that we recognize Faith Craven as our Outstanding 8th Grade Student of the Year.

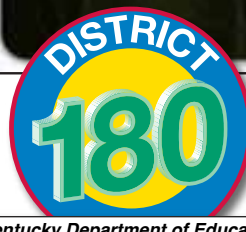


Our Beta club students and staff made and donated sandwiches to Wayside Christian Mission and the Center for Women and Families. What a great way to give back to the community.



Western High School

Western students were among the 1600 volunteers who joined Kids Against Hunger-Louisville as part of the Mayor's Give A Day campaign. More than 101,106 meals were made.



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Hunger Games-inspired EOC Bootcamp April 14 – May 7



At the end of the games, the Purple Team came out on top! Way to go Purple!



Western Priority Schools Christian County High School

Congratulations to CCHS Art students who placed in the CCBOE Young at Art competition.



Art Students painted banners for the City of Hopkinsville Community Project

Hopkins County Central High School

Hopkins County Central High School's varsity dance team placed third in the nation in the hip hop division at the National Dance Alliance competition in Orlando, FL.



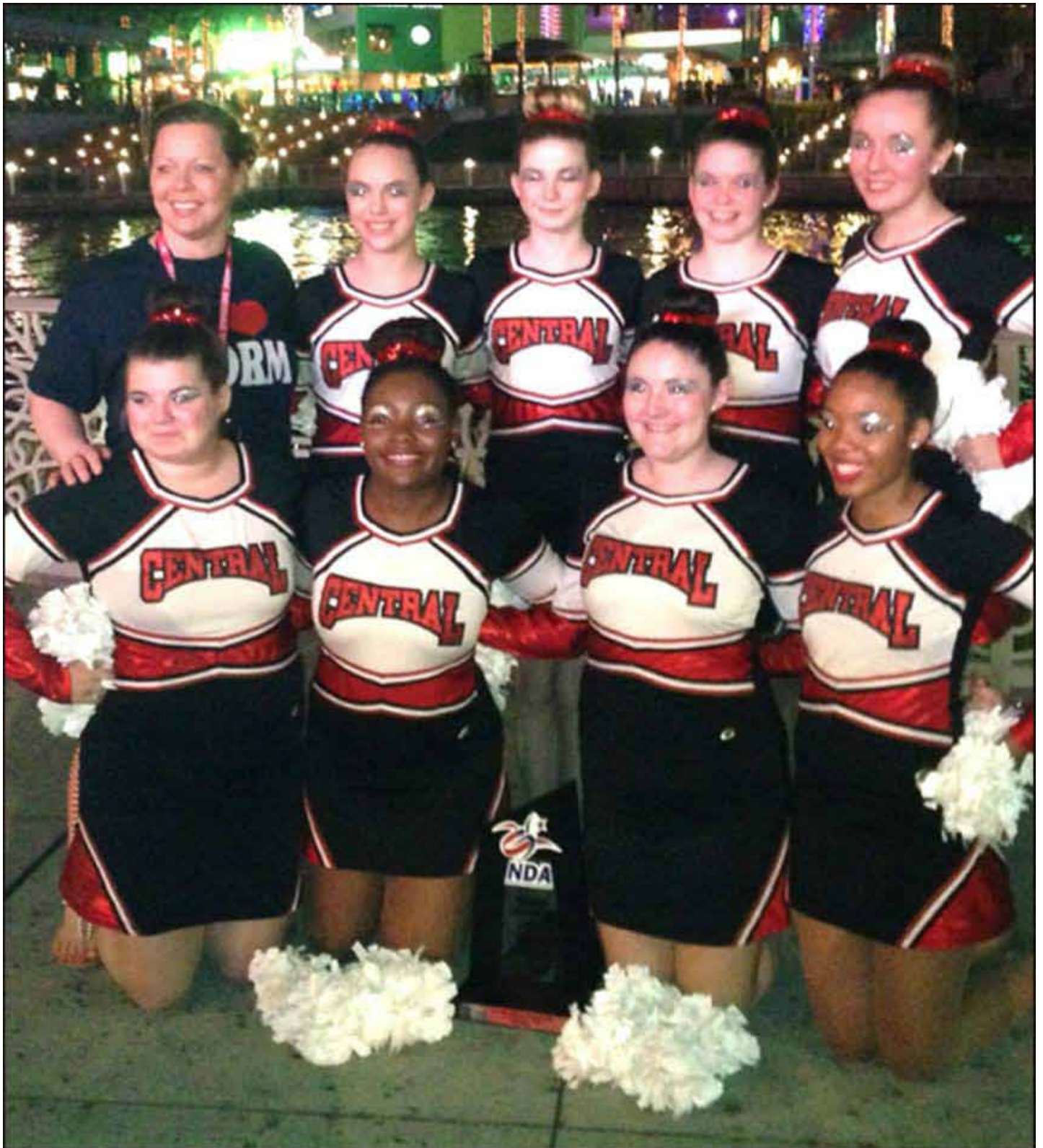
Front row, from left: Lacey Powell, Javin Purdy, Haleigh Darnell, Claire Harralson, Briana Barnett and Amira Faizal. Middle row: Emily Grimes, Natalie Polley, Chloe Wells, Chelsea Lantrip and Rayven Grant. Back row: Katie Daugherty, Sierra Simms, Sydney Carroll and Morgan Myers.



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Hopkins County Central High School's junior varsity dance team placed fourth in the nation in the pom division at the National Dance Alliance competition in Orlando, FL.



“Little” DeAron is only one play away from defeating his challenger, his “Big” Hannah Barritt, in Connect Four. Students from Hopkins County high schools meet with children in county elementary schools as part of a mentoring program with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Hannah is a student at Hopkins County Central High School.



Photo by Laura Buchanan of The Messenger Newspaper, Madisonville, KY



Hopkins Central student Abby Holmes, left, receives a scholarship to the 2014 Summer Arts Academy from Glema Mahr Center for the Arts Director Brad Downall.



The Madisonville Rotary Auction is one of the highlights of the year for many Hopkins County residents. The Rotary Club auctions off a variety of prizes. All money raised goes to various projects and organizations that benefit the youth of Hopkins County. This year the Hopkins County Central Storm football team assisted with the auction.

HOSA Students Win Awards at State Competition

Congratulations Hopkins County Central HOSA The following students won at the Kentucky state HOSA competition:

Darien Harris - first place, Human Growth & Development

Austin Cunningham - Healthcare Issues Exam

Emilie Hall - Outstanding HOSA chapter

Amy Whitmer - top 10 for Nursing Assistant

Emily Cansler - top 10 for Home Health Aide

Darien, Austin, and Emilie qualified by their ranking to go on to compete at Nationals in Orlando, Florida at the end of June.



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State DECA Competition Way to go HCCHS DECA.

Students placing in their competitive events at the State DECA Competition:

Monica Huff and Morgan Franklin – fourth place (qualifies for nationals)

Cecil Bennett and Saul Sandefur – third place (qualifies for nationals)

Special congrats to Monica Huff for being voted the 2014-15 STATE VP FINANCE.

All of our students placed in our regional competition, and have represented HCCHS very well.

Doubles tennis team first ever to qualify for state tournament

Clay Cunningham and Chase French are the first doubles tennis team at Hopkins County Central to EVER qualify for the state tennis tournament. They competed in the State Tournament in Lexington at the UK tennis complex on Thursday, May 15. Clay and Chase won their first two regional matches, and then lost a hard fought battle in the semi-finals against the top seeded Henderson County team of Stallings/ Angermeier 6-3-6-2. We are very proud of Clay and Chase for representing our school in the regional matches and participating at the State Tourney. Also, congratulations to Coach Jill Quinn for a job well done.

Congratulations to the Storm Archery team. They finished 18th out of 164 teams competing at Nationals. The team placed 1st in Hopkins County, and is currently 8th overall in the state out of 50 teams.





Congratulations to Shawn Clark for his great score at Nationals! He shot a 290 out of a possible 300. For 9th grade males he placed 10th out of 551 and for all males he finished 60th out of 5734.

Here at HCCHS, we are proud to be a distinguished school in the top 4% of Kentucky Schools, and so are our seniors. The Senior Class of 2014 has worked hard for themselves and the school, not to mention that over three quarters of the seniors are college and career ready. They deserve huge thanks for all their hard work and determination and big congratulations on being ready for what the future holds.



Superintendent Linda Zellich and Principal Tommy Burrough present HCCHS seniors with a Turnaround School banner given to the school by the state, and praised seniors for what they have achieved in just a few short years.

A Community Café event was held May 16 at HCCHS. We were honored to have so many guests from the community including Mayor Jackson, Mayor Seiber, and many other community leaders attend to discuss important issues regarding prescription drug abuse in the community. The event was successful and demonstrated our community's commitment to making a difference. We were honored to hear from guest speakers Jailer Joe Blue, Mike Duncan, and Deputy Punkin Arnett. Thank you to our Teen Leadership Team for putting this event together.



*Pictured here:
Micaylah Faith, Jesse
Finney, Abby Holmes,
Vonshae Matchem,
Asia White, Brooklyn
Barritt, and Kayley
Flore*

Approximately 173 seniors crossed the stage on May 30, saying goodbye to high school and hello to the future. The Storm band serenaded us with Fanfare and Processional, as well as the special tribute song, Into the Storm, and Central's very own Air Force JROTC presented the colors. Very special congratulations to the valedictorians, salutatorians, and historians. Congratulations to all the seniors, you worked hard and earned this moment.



Congrats Class of 2014!

KMEA State Band Event

Three of our band students performed solos at the KMEA State Solos and Ensembles Event at ECU, and all three received distinguished ratings! Please congratulate Clay Cunningham, Brooklyn Smith, and Ashley Workman for such an outstanding achievement. This is a repeat victory for Clay and Brooklyn, and Ashley has done this as a freshman. Each student performed what is known as a level 1 piece, which is typically reserved for college level or higher. Great job.



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Metcalfe County High School

MCHS student Ivy Parsons was chosen as a Cherry Presidential scholar at Western Kentucky University. The scholarship will cover tuition, housing, and book expenses.



MCHS sophomore Gage Edmunds has been chosen as a 2014 Rogers Scholar. Gage was also recognized recently for reaching a 32 on the ACT.



MCHS places first at culinary arts competition

The Culinary Arts competition is a team event recognizing participants enrolled in an occupational culinary arts food service training program. These teams are given a menu to prepare including an entrée, side item, and dessert. They are given 30 minutes to set up equipment and plan their preparation and 60 minutes to prepare all recipes. The members must demonstrate their ability to work together in order to create a quality meal and use appropriate food service techniques.

Teams are judged by a rubric that includes safety and appearance, team organization, food production,

food taste, and presentation. The Metcalfe County Culinary Team will advance to the State STAR Events competition after winning 1st place. Barren County placed 2nd and Bowling Green placed 3rd in the competition.

After advancing to state competition, teams receiving 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place can earn scholarships and prizes.

The 1st place state culinary team will compete at the National STAR Events Competition in San Antonio, Texas, in July 2014.



Culinary Team Members Jessie Grissom, Haley Hunt, and Brittany Scott show their completed recipes: Cappuccino Mousse, Beef Tenderloin, and Vegetable Skewers with Chipotle Mashed Potatoes



Kentucky Department of Education

Send us your news!

We will be sending the next District 180 newsletter in October. If you have positive news related to your school, we would love to publish it in the newsletter! Links to news stories and/or pictures from the media are appreciated if you have them but not required.

We want to celebrate all the good things that are happening in Priority Schools! Please send all information to Donna Davis at donna.davis@education.ky.gov.

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